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BROOMBALL RULES

Rule I.

The Rink (See Rink Diagram on Page 1)

Dimensions

Section 1.

A hockey rink of any size is satisfactory provided it has sideboards at least 40 inches and not more than 46 inches.

Goal Cages

Section 2.

A goal cage should be placed at each end of the rink at least ten (10) feet and not more than fifteen (15) feet from the end boards and equal distance from the sideboards.

Goal Lines

Section 3.

A goal line is a two (2) inch red line on the ice between the goal cages. **NOTE:** This line extended is used in determining icing.

Zones

Section 4.

The rink shall be divided into two (2) zones called defensive and attacking zones. A team's defensive zone is that half of the rink where the goal cage it is defending is located. The remaining half of the rink is its attacking zone.

Face-Off Marks

Section 5.

A red square, dot or circle at the exact center of the ice and the red special spots at each corner of the rink.

Goal Crease

Section 6.

A semi-circle with a two (2) foot radius. The center of this circle being a point midway between the two front goal posts on the goal line extended through the outer edge of the rear goal posts. (See diagram on Page 1)

Player's Area

Section 7.

Specific area in which a team plans to station themselves during the entire game. One team occupying one side of the center line and the opposing team the other.

Penalty Box

Section 8.

Special area in which members of each team, upon being penalized, must be stationed during their two (2) or five (5) minute penalty. The box must be situated away from team players area, in order to eliminate confusion for game officials.

Rule II.

Goal Cages

Section 1.

The goal shall be eight (8) feet in width and six (6) feet in height. (See diagram on Page 1)

Rule III.

The Ball

Section 1.

The ball shall be a size three (3) soccer ball with a lace less molded cover of 32 or more panels of contrasting colors. The ball shall be made of rubber, leather or synthetic leather. It should measure at least 22 inches but no more than 24 inches in circumference with a weight of 11-13 ounces when inflated with 5-6 pounds of air pressure.

Rule IV.

Player's Equipment

Brooms

Section 1.

Brooms shall be those that are commercially produced for broomball. The blade end of the broom may be coated or treated (by the manufacturer only). The wooden handle and the blade end of the broom have no size requirements and may be taped for cohesive or safety purposes.

Clothing

Section 2.

Warm clothing and shoes or overshoes suitable to running on ice should be worn. No abrasives are to be worn or attached to the shoes or overshoes.

Dangerous Equipment

Section 3.

No devices for a player's protection shall be worn which are liable to cause injury to the other players. Shin pads, if worn, must be worn beneath clothing.

Goalie Equipment

Section 4.

The goalkeeper's equipment will be the same as any other player's equipment, except the goalkeeper may wear gloves, (hockey) and a goalkeeper's mask.

Helmets

Section 5.

Helmets or headgear are highly recommended for personal protection from brooms and falls.

Rule V

Team & Players

Team

Section 1.

A team shall be composed of six (6) players.

Squad

Section 2.

Each squad shall consist of not more than twenty (20) players.

Rule VI

Choice of Ends

Section 1.

Unless previously agreed upon the referee shall toss a coin before the game in the presence of the captains, first designating which captain of the visiting team shall call. The winner of the toss shall have the choice of the end that player's team shall defend during the first period.

In the event of a tie score at the end of regulation playing time, a coin toss shall occur to determine choice of ends for sudden death play.

Rule VII

Scoring

Score

Section 1.

A goal shall count one (1) point.

Section 2.

A goal is made when the ball entering from in front, passes between the cage posts, below the top of the net, and **completely** across the goal line. An attacking player may score and a goal made only when the ball was last touched by his broom, and then only if the ball, when so played, was not more than waist level off the ice. If the ball was last touched by a defending player before it entered the cage, the goal is allowed regardless of the manner in which the ball was caused to enter the cage except that if an attacking player propels the ball other than with his broom.

Scoring on Pass-In Section 3.

After the ball has left the rink, the ball will be put in play by the opponents of the team causing the ball to leave the rink. The team passing the ball in (with broom) can score a goal only after a teammate (other than a person passing ball) has touched the ball. If the ball strikes a defensive player (other than the goalie) on the pass-in and goes into net, the goal shall count.

Goals Not Counted Foul Section 4.

A goal shall not be allowed in any of the following cases:

- a. When the attacking team has committed a foul which assisted in taking of the goal.
- b. When attacking team has too many players on the ice at the time the goal is scored – minor penalty.
- c. If any number of the attacking team was in or running through the Goal Crease when the goal was made from outside the Crease, unless the goalkeeper was outside the Crease when the play was made.
- d. On pass-in – if ball is not touched by teammate before entering goal.
- e. On pass-in – if ball is not touched by a defensive player other than the goalie.

Rule VIII Duration of Match

Regular Period Section 1.

There shall be two (2) periods, each consisting of 25 minutes of actual play, with the final three (3) minutes of each period played under stop time.

Section 2.

During the first 22 minutes of each period the clock shall be stopped when:

- a. An official's timeout is called.
- b. A player injury occurs.
- c. A penalty shot is awarded.

NOTE: If the difference in score is or becomes five goals or greater than the final three minutes of the second period shall be played under running time. If the difference in score is or becomes less than five goals then stop time shall be employed.

Overtime Periods Section 1.

Games which are tied after regulation play has expired shall be resolved through sudden death play (no time limit). Teams shall be reduced to four players with no goalkeeper, defensive player or offensive player allowed in the Crease area unless the ball is in the Crease area.

NOTE: If a penalty shot is awarded during sudden death play, there shall not be a goalkeeper stationed in or near the Crease area.

Rule IX Substitution

Regular Section 1.

Free substitution. Before the game, each team will designate their teams "player area". Substitutions may be made at any time during the game. The player being substituted for must leave the ice and be in the "player area" before his substitution can legally enter the game.

Injuries Section 2.

An injured player may be substituted for at any time.

Game Tournament Misconduct Section 3.

A team must play short handed for the major penalty when a Game Tournament misconduct is called on one of their players.

Penalty for Illegal Substitution Section 4.

Minor penalty (timed).

Rule X Putting the Ball In Play

Center of Ice Face-Off Section1.

The ball shall be put in play by a face-off at center of ice. The two (2) players making the face-off shall stand with both feet and body squarely facing his opponent's end of the rink with tips of brooms on the ice and approximately 24 inches apart. The ball will be placed on the face-off spot between the two brooms. Play will commence when the referee blows the whistle.

Section 2.

At time of face-off, all players will be in their defensive zone and not within 15 feet of face-off spot.

Section 3.

The ball shall be faced at center ice at beginning of each period, after a goal, after a penalty shot, after an official's timeout and after an injury.

Ball Leaving Rink Section 4.

If ball leaves the rink for any reason, the team causing ball to leave the rink will lose possession of the ball and a player on the opposing team will put the ball in play by passing the ball in from side of rink at point where ball was hit from. The broom must be used to pass the ball into play and no defensive player may position himself within 15 feet of player passing ball into play. Prior to putting the ball into play, the referee will place the ball within 5 feet of sideboards.

Ball Tied Up Section 5.

Anytime in the judgment of the referee, the ball is tied up, it shall be faced-off at nearest marked face-off spot.

Rule XI Playing the Ball

3 Feet Off Ice Section 1.

The ball may be played or stopped with the broom when the straw end of the broom is **NOT** more than waist high off the ice. If an attempt is made to play the ball when the straw end of the broom is more than 3 feet above the ice, the ball will be awarded the opposing team to be placed in by one of their players to a teammate from the side of the rink nearest point of infraction. If an injury is caused by playing the ball when the straw end of the broom is above 3 feet – a **Major Penalty** shall be awarded.

- a. Slow Whistle (See Rule 15, Section 8) **Minor Penalty** – if flagrant – **Major Penalty**.

Kicking Ball Section 2.

The ball may be stopped by any part of the body, but may not be caught and thrown, batted or kicked. The feet may be used to control the ball – but may not be kicked. **Minor Penalty**.

Goal Keeper

Section 3.

A team shall have only one goalkeeper or player with goalkeeper's privileges on the ice at any one time. However, in case a player is substituted for the goalkeeper he shall be given the same privileges as the goalkeeper, but he must report to referee as goal keeper.

- a. With his feet, body or broom, the goalkeeper may play the ball in any manner or direction (except throwing broom which is prohibited and is a penalty shot).
 1. In stopping the ball; he may catch it, propel it, or bat it with his hands or broom in any direction. In clearing the ball, he may pick it up, carry it out of Crease or throw it towards his own end of the rink. **Minor Penalty** for throwing ball forward.
 2. The goalkeeper shall be given three seconds after catching the ball to clear it. If after three seconds he has failed to clear the ball, it is a **Minor Penalty**.

Players

Section 4.

When the ball is on the ice, no player other than the goal keeper, shall pick up, throw, cover or trap the ball with his hands or body – **Minor Penalty – T.O..**

Broken Brooms

Section 5.

A player without a broom may participate in the game. A broken broom handle must be dropped to the ice immediately – **Minor Penalty (timed)**.

Interference

Section 6.

Interference with an opponent not playing ball is not permitted anywhere under any circumstances. **Minor Penalty (timed). If flagrant, Penalty Shot.**

NOTE: Waving arms in front of a goalkeeper by an opponent is interference.

Offensive Crease Rule

- a. No player of the attacking team may stand or stay in the Goal Crease when the ball is outside Crease, nor may he be in Crease when a goal is scored by a teammate who is outside Crease. A player of the attacking or defending team may stand or be in the Crease when the ball is in the Crease or he, himself is actually in possession of the ball while it is in the Crease.

NOTE: The provisions of this rule will apply only while the goalkeeper is inside the Crease. If he is not, the Crease Rule becomes inoperative. **Minor Penalty – T.O.**

Throwing Broom

Section 7.

No Player – including goalkeeper – shall throw his broom in any zone – **Penalty Shot.**

Defensive Crease

Section 8.

No defensive player (except the goalkeeper) may stand or position himself in the goal crease. **A team warning on first offense and a Minor Penalty (timed) on each offense thereafter.**

Icing

Section 9.

Any ball hit from inside the defending team's blue line and crossing opponent's goal line prior to being touched by either team will be brought back and faced off.

Rule XII

Conduct of Players

Roughing

Section 1.

There should be no charging, roughing, elbowing, kneeing, pushing from behind, cross checking, tripping or slashing with the broom, jabbing with either end of the broom, tripping with leg or foot, or tripping in sliding block. **Minor Penalty (timed).**

Holding

Section 2.

There should be no holding of an opponent, or an opponent's broom. **Minor Penalty (timed).**

Boarding

Section 3.

There should be no:

- a. Pushing, charging, or body checking an opponent into the side or end boards or goal cages. **Minor Penalty (timed).**

Charging the Goalie

- b. Charging into, roughing, interfering with or any other foul against the goalkeeper, while the goal keeper is inside his goal Crease. **Minor Penalty (timed).**

Fighting

- c. Fighting, slugging with fists or broom, kicking or attempting to do so – **Penalty Shot and Tournament Misconduct** to player involved.

Forfeit

Section 4.

There should be no refusal to obey the decision of the referee. **Penalty – forfeiture – team elimination from tournament.**

Language

Section 5.

No player shall use foul or abusive language. **Major Penalty (timed) and if continued – Game Tournament Misconduct.**

Rule XIII Timekeeper

Section 1.

The referee and timer shall stop the clock only when:

- a. Referees call time-out for emergency reasons.
- b. When a penalty shot is being attempted.
- c. Player injury.

Rule XIV Conduct of Persons Other than Players

Bench-Coach Conduct Section 1.

There shall be no whistles blown, or other signals given by coach, manager or other than the official, except for substitution when play is stopped; and no coach or manager shall enter the rink, except by permission of referee in case of injury to a player. Activities of a coach during the progress of the game shall be confined to the immediate area of the bench or area set aside for players. **Minor Penalty on first offense (times) – Major Penalty (timed) on each additional offense.**

Fan Conduct

Section 2.

No coach, manager or other person connected with a team shall use foul or abusive language to an official or otherwise try to influence him either while play is in progress or during an intermission. **Minor Penalty (timed) on first offense – Major Penalty (timed) on each additional offense.**

Section 3.

No coach, manager or other person connected with a team shall throw a broom or ball on the rink. **Penalty Shot.**

Rule XV Penalties

Minor

Section 1.

Minor Penalty (turn over) is awarding of the ball to opponents to be passed in (with broom) from side of rink nearest point of infraction.

Minor Penalty (timed) is ruling a player, other than a goalkeeper, off the ice for two (2) minutes, during which time no substitute shall be permitted.

Major

Section 2.

Major Penalty (timed) is ruling a player, other than a goalkeeper, off the ice for five (5) minutes, during which time no substitute shall be permitted.

Penalty Shot

Section 3.

Penalty Shot is a free shot at goalkeeper from fifteen (15) feet directly in front of the goal line. The player fouled will attempt the shot. (See diagram on Page 1).

- a. The ball will be set on ice 15 feet in front of the goal line and the player attempting the shot may stand stationary and shoot the ball or run up to the ball and shoot. There will be no playing of the rebound.
- b. During the penalty shot the goalkeeper must remain completely inside the hockey goal Crease. (not more than 6 feet in front of goal line).
- c. A penalty shot that is not caused directly by a foul against a certain player will be attempted by a player of offended team captain's choice.

Delay of Game

Section 4.

No player shall intentionally delay game by throwing or hitting the ball out of the rink or by committing any other act for the obvious purpose of stalling. **Warning on first offense – Minor Penalty (timed) on each additional offense.**

Game Tournament Misconduct

Section 5.

Game Tournament Misconduct – ejecting of the player from the game and remaining games in the tourney.

Forfeit

Section 6.

Forfeiture – Loss of Game.

Judgment

Section 7.

The referee shall designate and penalize other improper plays or conduct not herein mentioned, and in his discretion may increase any penalties in these rules.

Slow Whistle

Section 8.

In case the ball is in possession of a team in any zone and the opponents commit a foul, the referee shall postpone stoppage of play because of commission of such foul until the offending team shall have possession of the ball.

